



Part 4 The Collier County Museum Grounds

Collier County, Florida is the largest county in the state by land area and fourth largest by total area (2,305 sq. mi.). The county is located within the Big Cypress National Preserve and at the northernmost part of Everglades National Park. Collier County is located at the southern end of Florida's Gulf Coast and bounded by five other counties including Broward and Miami-Dade Counties to the east and southeast. It is known as Florida's Paradise Coast. Interstate 75 and U.S. Route 41, also known as the Tamiami Trail, are the major highways in the county. Collier County was once part of Lee County. Collier was created in 1923 and named for Barron Collier, a New York City businessman who moved to Florida and became a prominent landowner and promoter of Naples and the County. The Tamiami Trail, opened in 1928, was one of his major accomplishments, the roadway from Miami to Tampa, Florida. The Museum was established in 1978.



This is a four-part series:

Part 1 Overview of Collier County Museums Part 2 The Calusa – Spaniards – Seminole Wars

Part 3 The Trail Blazers and Builders Part 4. Tour of the Naples Collier Museum Grounds

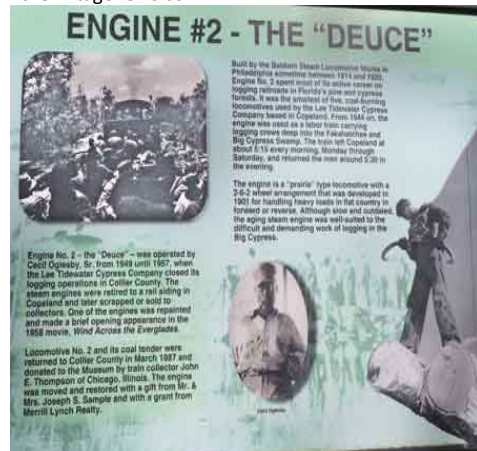
Go to acuri.net – USA – Florida to see the programs under Naples, Florida



"The Deuce was known as the logger's labor train, which carried the sawyers and girdlers to the logging sites that were in the swamp. The train would leave Copeland around 5:15 every morning and wouldn't return until around 5:30 in the evening." <coastalbreezenews.com>

"It is estimated that prior to 1845 when Florida became a state, there was still 27 million acres of virgin timber in the state. By that date only 15 million remained. The cypress is referred to as "the Wood Eternal" because growing in water allows it to develop in protection from the elements. These "Giants of the Swamp" reportedly measured up to 25 feet in circumference and reached heights up to 150 feet.

<thevintagenews.com>



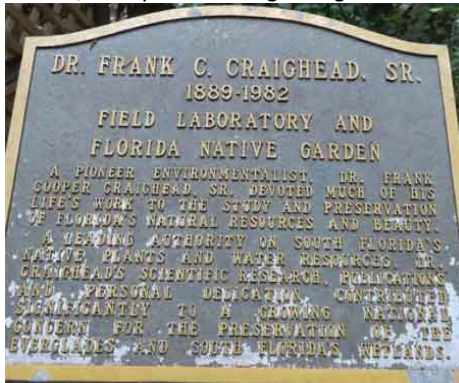
"As one of the oldest flowering plants, orchids have developed a complex relationship with their pollinating counterparts. Their colors, shapes and smells have made them cunning attractors of specific insects (and in some cases animals) that will transport their pollen packets (pollinia) from one plant to another." <oregonorchidsociety.org>



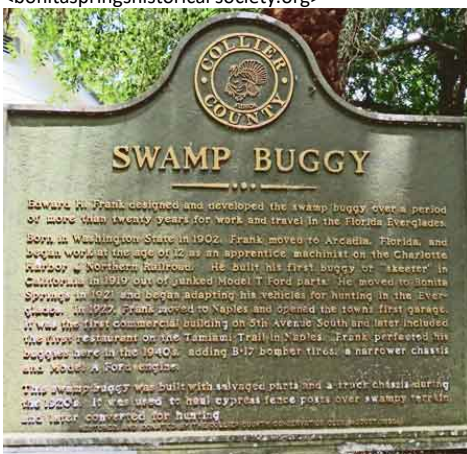
The Kokomis was a ferry boat that carried people-plus between Naples and Keewaydin Island.



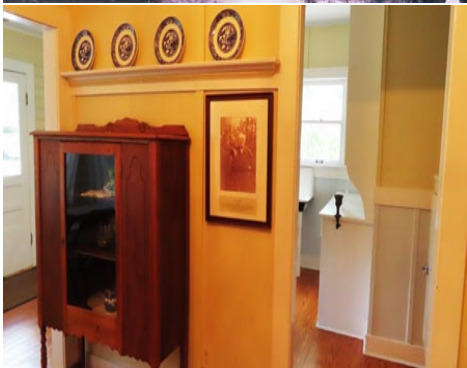
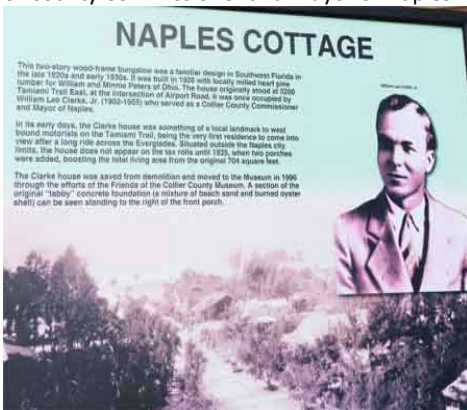
"In 1956, Frank Cooper Craighead Sr. retired as Chief of Forest Entomology and moved to Homestead, Florida. For the next 22 years he studied South Florida's ecology and natural sciences for the Everglade National Park and National Geographic Society. He moved to Naples in 1968 with his wife, Carolyn. He had a growing concern for the preservation and the Everglades and South Florida's wetlands." <swflarchaeology.org>



"Local historians credit Ed Frank, as the "father" and inventor of the first swamp buggy. He developed his original "skeeter" between 1918 and 1920 while in Bonita Springs for hunting, using parts from a junked Model T Ford and an orange crate box for a seat...Naples is the Home of the World-Famous Swamp Buggy Races...At the age of 19, Ed Frank adapted a Model T Ford, and junk parts into a buggy named 'Skeeter'." <bonitaspringshistorical society.org>



The Naples Cottage was a typical two-story wood-frame bungalow in Southwest Florida in late 1920s and early 1930s. This house was the home of County Commissioner and Mayor of Naples. It was saved from demolition in 1990 by the Museum Board.





The tank was named by the British for Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman



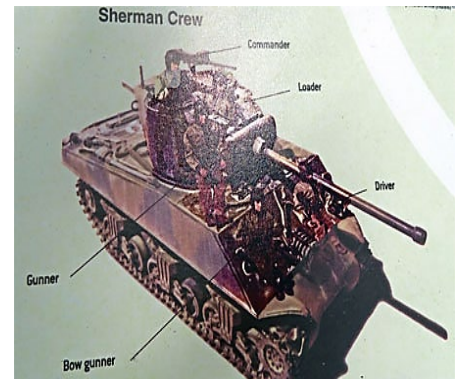
Dwight D. Eisenhower with a M4 Sherman



The White Star insignia was used by U.S. and Allied vehicles as a means of aerial and ground recognition



Total production with several variants was 49,324 between 1942 and 1945.



Sources: Collier County Guide to Historic Sites booklet, <https://www.colliercountyfl.gov/government/advisory-boards-and-authorities/historical-archaeological-preservation-board>, <https://armyhistory.org/the-making-of-a-general-ike-the-tank-and-the-interwar-years/>, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M4_Sherman, <https://tankmuseum.org/tank-nuts/tank-collection/m4-sherman>, <https://myfloridahistory.org/date-in-history/october-28-1950/naples-swamp-buggy-races>, <https://www.swampbuggy.com/history>, <https://archive.naplesnews.com/news/local/historic-kokomis-keeps-memories-a-float-at-the-collier-county-museum-ep-398863111-344057722.html/>, <https://oregonorchidsociety.org/education/orchid-history>, https://www.coastalbreezenews.com/opinion/columnists/the-history-of-the-deuce/article_b10d46c3-8c02-5580-9147-c859ec7f0306.html, <https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/147467>, <https://www.thevintagenews.com/2016/01/18/46179/?chrome=1>, <https://bonitaspringshistoricalsociety.org/Explore/swamp-buggies/index.html> and <https://swflarchaeology.org/craighead-laboratory>.

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